

LYNNWOOD LIBRARY – LIBRARIAN’S REPORT – August 2014

Lynnwood Library – Statistical Summary	AUG-14		AUG-13		% Change
Items Checked Out/Renewed	64,999		74,668		-12.94%
Items Checked Out/Renewed YTD	515,058		587,877		-12.38%
Door Count	36,989		40,696		-9.10%
Door Count YTD	303,612		316,917		-4.20%
Program Attendance	1,455		1,256		15.84%
Program Attendance YTD	14,382		15,860		-9.32%

WHAT’S NEW

The Summer Reading campaign wound down in August, with the “finisher’s party” on the 22nd, featuring Charlie Williams. Charlie has been a guest performer at libraries for many years, combining his humorous delivery and unique ability to imitate animals, automobiles and a wide range of inanimate objects. Karin Thomsen, the librarian hosting his performance, said he had kids rolling on the floor with laughter. Charlie tied in his humor with literacy in his program “Readin’ at the Speed of Sound.” At this same event, the Masons awarded their donated bicycles to two young summer reading participants. The bikes were a big hit and no doubt, an incentive for kids to join in and complete their reading goals.

Program attendance has been surprising at times this summer. Three performances in particular stand out: the “Reptile Man and Friends,” “All About Frogs,” and the August LEGO program, each drew well over 100 people – more than would comfortably fit into the meeting room. The weekly “circuits” presented by Sno-Isle staff members all drew between 50-100 people. So it would seem that while overall door count in the library has been down during this spectacular summer weather, special events for young children will always be a draw.

Programming and classes for teens and adults were far more manageable in size. And there were a lot to choose from this summer: job hunting using Career Accelerator, Microsoft Word and Excel, Feldenkrais movement to reduce chronic pain, Small Business Reference Center, constructing LED wristbands, online investing using ValueLine and Morningstar, marketing information on AtoZ Databases, a writer’s workshop for teens, introduction to Garage Band, and weekly drop-in sessions for help with various forms of consumer technology and use of the library’s digital book and media collections.

OUTREACH

Children’s Librarian Jen Sullivan reports that she hosted a table at the South Snohomish Family Support center “Back to School Fair,” held at Cedar Valley Community School on August 21st. She states “there were approximately 600 children and caregivers there to collect new backpacks, get health screenings, and learn about community resources. The Sno-Isle table had brochures, library applications, pencils and bookmarks. Children could spin the color wheel and answer a question about the library to win a prize.”

Karin Thomsen met with another Program for Early Parent Support group, August 5th. Twenty-two people attended. Karin notes that “it’s always nice to have the chance to do an evening PEPS program so that we get to see both parents interact with their babies. It’s a special treat, since not many dads are able to make it to Baby and Me Storytimes (on Tuesday mornings).”

FACILITIES

New computer workstations were installed west of the Creative Technical Center. The Friends of the Lynnwood Library contributed the funds. The net result is more space within the Center itself, with each table having just one computer. This allows for easier use by customers and better access for staff who are called over to assist customers. The new workstations displaced upholstered furniture which was moved to the Children’s area, where it fit right in.

Someone has removed the garbage container from in front of the library several times over the summer. City personnel were alerted to this and asked to secure the container. Police have also been asked to patrol the grounds more afterhours.

Respectfully submitted,
Michael Delury,
Managing Librarian